5





PATENT Attorney Docket No. 10393.44

COMPUTER NETWORK HAVING COMMONLY LOCATED COMPUTING SYSTEMS

Abstract of the Disclosure

A computer network comprised of a plurality of interconnected nodes. each having a DTE device coupled thereto. Plural ones of the DTE devices are each further comprised of a computing system positioned at a first location and a human interface, which includes a video monitor, and plural · I/O devices, specifically, a keyboard, mouse and printer, positioned at a second location remotely located relative to the first location. The first locations at which the computing systems of the DTE devices are positioned are commonly located. The DTE devices further include a first encoder coupled to the computing system, a first decoder coupled to the video monitor and the at least one I/O device and a transmission line which couples the encoder to the decoder. The first encoder receives, from the computing system, a video signal to be transmitted to the video monitor and a non-video signal to be transmitted to the at least one I/O device. The first encoder combines the video and the non-video signals into a combined signal and transmits the combined signal to the first decoder via the transmission line. The first decoder receives the combined signal, separates the video and non-video signals therefrom for respective propagation to the video monitor and the at least one I/O device.